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FRENTE REVOLUCIONARIA DE TIMOR-LESTE INDEPENDENTE

(REVOLUTIONARY FRONT FOR AN INDEPENDENT EAST TIMOR)

FRETILIN

PRESS RELEASE

FRETILIN STRONGLY DENIES AUSTRALIAN PM HAWKE'S ALLEGATIONS THAT THE MOVEMENT RECEIVES LIBYAN SUPPORT

1. FRETILIN has no relation of any sort with Libya; it has never received support from that country's Government, be it material or diplomatic.

2. The United Nations' records show that Libya never supported the pro-East Timor resolutions in the General Assembly, except in April 1976 when Libya was a member of the Security Council. On that occasion all members of the Security Council, with the exception of the US and Japan which abstained, voted in condemning the brutal invasion of East Timor by the armed forces of Indonesia. In an earlier meeting, the Security Council voted unanimously in favour of a speedy withdrawl of Indonesian troops from East Timor.

3. The PM of Australia ought to withdraw his accusation that FRETILIN has received any form of support from Libya because such allegation is utterly false. It is sheer hypocrisy on the part of PM Hawke to express "concern" about Libian "influence" in the region, when his Government has turned a blind eye - and in fact has been an accomplice - to the tragedy in East Timor.

4. While FRETILIN has had no support from Libya and does not seek it at the moment, FRETILIN expresses its understanding and solidarity with the Independent states of the South Pacific region to establish normal State relations with other countries. It is sheer arrogance on the part of Australia to try to dictate to the small independent countries of the region who they should have

relations with when Australia crawls after the Soviet Union and China to sell its agricultural and industrial products.

Lisbon, Head Office of FRETILIN overseas, 16 June 1987.-

Abílio Araújo
Head of Delegation

José Ramos-Horta
Secretary for Int'l Relations
& Information

FRENTE REVOLUCIONARIA DE TIMOR-LESTE INDEPENDENTE

(REVOLUTIONARY FRONT FOR AN INDEPENDENT EAST TIMOR)

FRETILIN

16 June 1987

The Ambassador
of Australia:

Dear Sir: Pls find enclosed a copy of a statement we have released to the Press in reaction to PM Hawke's false claims that FRETILIN has received support from Libya. The Prime Minister ought to withdraw such claim since it is totally unfounded and cannot but seen as a lame justification for Australia's support of Indonesia's brutal occupation of East Timor.

We request that the enclosed Press statement be channeled to the PM's office.

Sincerely Yours,

Abílio ARAÚJO
Head of Delegation

Enc.: Press statement

cc.: The offices of the President,
Prime Minister and Minister for
Foreign Affairs of Portugal;
all EEC, US, Japan, Canada, and
Nordic Embassies in Lisbon.